

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, December 21, 2009, 4:30pm, at Morton Community Center

Present at said meeting were Garnet Peck, Mike Dana, Karen Springer, Richard Shockley and Attorney John Sorensen. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Lee Booth, and Brenda Lorenz represented the department. Present from the City was Council member Ann Hunt. Absent from the meeting were Board member Mary Nauman and Council members Gerald Thomas and Gerry Keen and from the Department Cheryl Kolb.

Garnet convened the Board at 4:35 pm.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the November 16, 2009 meeting. Mike motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Karen seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing
- Thanked Garnet and Mike for their years of service on the Park Board.

Assistant Superintendent – Pennie reported on the following:

- She submitted a grant to the Greater Lafayette Community Foundation for Global Fest, but we did not receive it. Thanked Mary for helping her with writing the Grant. The Community Foundation usually only supports capital projects but we thought we would try for it anyway.
- She has entered the Winter/Spring recreation programs on the web site.
- She has registered staff and Park Board members Mary and Karen for the IPRA State Conference.

Parks – Lee reported on the following:

- Trail and Playground Inspections were presented
- The Rink did open on time
- Closed parks and winterized drinking fountains/restrooms
- Trimming trees in all parks

Recreation Report – Chris reported on the following:

- Lee's staff did get the rink opened on time and they did work a lot of extra hours to get that complete, they even worked over Thanksgiving.
- Skate with Santa was held this Saturday, December 19. The event was sold out with over 60 attending.
- The Winter/Spring 2010 brochure was mailed last week and most have been delivered. Priority is given to mail in registrations. Walk-in and Phone-in registrations will begin January 6.
- Will start taking shelter reservations on January 4.

Morton Center – Brenda reported on the following:

- She handed out a report with enrollment figures. Our fall enrollment was 1,313 compared to last year's fall enrollment of 1,296 which is an increase of 1%. However, for the year, we had an overall decrease in enrollment of 5%.

- The grant (Energy Efficiency Development Block Grant) request for funding for interior storm windows at Morton has been submitted. We should hear in January whether or not we are awarded the grant. Thank you to Mary Nauman for her work on the grant.
- We are presently entering information into WBAA's website about Morton winter/spring classes and entering information about our arts and dance classes into the website IndianaArts.org.
- Morton will be closed December 24-January 3 and will open again on January 4.

Joe thanked Brenda for hosting the meeting and putting on a 'nice spread'.

Old Business

Celery Bog Footpath Work

Joe said the minutes were brief about this topic because the donor has asked it to be kept as quiet as possible so it can be a surprise. We have received a donation of \$7,500 for construction of a 24-foot boardwalk on the Celery Bog Footpath with a bench as part of that, on the side; work is underway. There will be a planned ceremony in April. Joe has identified four locations where he would like boardwalks because of wet areas on the 1½-mile footpath. This one is in the southern location, south of the south viewing deck area.

Goal Discussion – Tabled

WALLA

Joe received a nice letter from Ellen Dran with the WALLA group expressing thanks to the Park Board for allowing the wine appreciation classes during the fall.

Park Board Meeting Dates

Joe passed around the list of 2010 meeting dates. They will be the third Monday of every month at 4:30 pm except for January and February where there are holidays so it will meet on the fourth Monday. Because of spring break in March, it will also be the fourth Monday.

New Business

Great Skates

Joe received a letter from Scott Lehr of Great Skates, owned by Lynn Treece Boys and Girls Club. They operate Great Skates to make money for the Boys and Girls Club. About six years ago we purchased 180 pairs of in-line skates at \$41 a pair. We tried rental of skates at the Riverside Skating Center but it never took off; they have not been used in years and have been stored. Great Skates would like to see if they could work something out with us; either a donation or trade of admissions and rental passes to their facilities. After discussion, it was decided that we need to get rid of the skates but we have to figure out a way to do it. The staff will put some information on the IPRA web site and let the information be known at the IPRA State Conference.

West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported the following:

On November 29 the West Lafayette football team beat Evansville Memorial 24-10 at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis to become the 2009 Class 3A State Football Champions. The last state football championship was in 1993.

On December 2 the School Board approved a Tax Referendum Question Resolution that will allow voters who reside within the school corporation boundaries to vote on May 4, 2010 to annually impose a referendum to levy of up to, but not to exceed \$0.43 per \$100 Accessed Evaluation per year starting 2011 through and including 2018. It was approved by the County Council and now is set for approved by the Board of Elections in January and then put on the ballot. Friends of West Lafayette Schools have formed a PAC and they will be handling the referendum process.

The financial difficulties with the state, an additional impact to school corporations, in midyear cycle, all school corporations are looking at chopping expenses by 3%. Waiting to hear from the Department of Education if that is going to be across the board cut for all school corporations.

For the third year in a row West Lafayette High School has earned a silver medal distinction in the US News and World Reports' America's Best High School 2010 rankings. The rankings are based on a schools' standardized test performance, proficiency rates of all students, and college-preparation curriculum.

West Lafayette High School has been designated a 'Best Buy' high school by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. This award goes to high schools that spend less than the state median while achieving better than average results.

Joe reported that Principal Miller from Happy Hollow School has received a grant to put a fitness track in at Happy Hollow School. It will be a rubber-mulched surface in the large flat area and part of the hillside in the back of the school. We are extending the Village Fitness Trail on Leslie, across Salisbury (at the new push button, multi-lighted crossing) and into Happy Hollow to that track. He credited Principal Miller for having the idea. It will be started in the spring.

Wabash River

Joe reported that our Wabash Heritage Trail Phase I construction engineering firm has been selected and approved by IDOT. It will be HNTB Corporation. We are anticipating INDOT's letting of a contract to start construction this spring.

Other**Establish Cash/Change Fund for Riverside Skating Center**

Chris reported that with the increase of a dollar for admission, we have to give out more dollars in change. Chris requested that the Board approve the establishment of a Cash Change Fund for the Riverside Skating Center for \$200 and an additional \$100 to be processed with the next claim run (total of \$500) from the Nonreverting Operating Fund and to revert no later than April 1, 2010. Richard motioned to establish a Cash Change Fund for the Riverside Skating Center. Mike seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Purchase Orders

Chris requested approval of the following purchase orders:

P.O. 9002 Morgan/Chase Bank, which is our Credit Card Company for a total \$2,881.44:

\$63.98 for food for the Park Board meeting

\$55.00 for pesticide training for one of our employees

\$2,762.46 for computers we are replacing, one at Morton and two in the office

P.O. 9003 for set up of the three computers to Net Link Technologies for \$1,125.00

P.O. 9004 for Vectren to encumber money to pay our gas bill for Lilly Nature Center, Morton and Riverside Skating Center for \$7,400.00

P.O. 9005 to Duke Energy for electricity for \$4,200.00

P.O. 9000 to Kenney Outdoor Solutions for an edger for \$1,450.00

Mike motioned to approve the purchase orders. Richard seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Pay Claims

Mike motioned for claims to be paid. Richard seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Adjourn

Mike motioned to adjourn the meeting. Karen seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

Presiding Officer

Secretary